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# The Secret Initiation Of Jesus At Qumran: The Essene Mysteries Of John The Baptist



## Synopsis

An examination of the early, mysterious Essene community at Qumran that links it with John the Baptist, Jesus, and the beginnings of Christianity

- Offers an eyewitness account of the final burial place of John the Baptist
- Makes the case that Christianity grew out of a form of monotheism first formulated by the Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten
- Includes physical and photographic evidence never before published

In his earlier book *The Mystery of the Copper Scroll of Qumran*, Robert Feather analyzed the Dead Sea Scroll engraved on copper that is considered the work of the secretive, devout Jewish sect known as the Essenes, who lived at Qumran around the time of Jesus. To continue his research into the Essene community's way of life and how its beliefs may have influenced the beginnings of Christianity, he met with Father Jozef Milik, one of the scholars who worked on deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1950s. Feather learned that during Milik's work somewhere near the Qumran ruins, he had excavated a headless corpse that he believed to be that of John the Baptist. Feather presents persuasive, powerful evidence illustrating the strong link between the Qumran Essenes and New Testament teachings and showing that both John the Baptist and Jesus were intimately involved with this community at Qumran. He further supports the claim that early Christians continued a belief system centered on a form of monotheism first formulated by the Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten and uniquely espoused by the Essenes at Qumran.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Feather's book appeals because of its startling thesis, its systematic presentation of the evidence, and the author's excellent story telling. Obviously, the last word about the origins of Christianity has not been spoken as yet. Perhaps, with *The Secret Initiation of Jesus at Qumran*, we are getting a little closer to the truth." (Georg Feuerstein, Traditional Yoga Studies Interactive, January 17th 2006) "A fact-filled book about the Essene mysteries, and the role that John the Baptist performed with Jesus' initiation, are part of this big book of information. It is a good, old-fashioned reading experience, one the reader will deeply enjoy!" (Lee Prosser, Ghostvillage.com, Feb 8, 2006)

CHRISTIAN STUDIES / GNOSTICISM    In his earlier book *The Mystery of the Copper Scroll of Qumran*, Robert Feather analyzed the Dead Sea Scroll engraved on copper that is considered the work of the secretive, devout Jewish sect known as the Essenes, who lived at Qumran around the time of Jesus. In *The Secret Initiation of Jesus at Qumran*, Feather now presents persuasive, powerful evidence illustrating the strong link between the Qumran Essenes and teachings of the Christian Scriptures, demonstrating that both John the Baptist and Jesus were intimately involved with this community. He further supports the claim that early Christians continued a belief system centered on a form of monotheism first formulated by the Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten and uniquely espoused by the Essenes at Qumran. To assist his research into the Essene community's way of life, Feather met with Jozef Milik, previously a Catholic priest and one of the scholars who worked on deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1950s. Feather learned that during Milik's work somewhere near the Qumran ruins, he had excavated a headless corpse that he believed to be that of John the Baptist. Feather tracks down the site of this grave and gives an eyewitness account of the final burial place of John the Baptist, offering physical and photographic evidence never before published. ROBERT FEATHER is a metallurgist, engineer, journalist, and a scholar of world religions. He is the founding editor of *The Metallurgist*, editor of *Weighing and Measuring*, and the author of *The Mystery of the Copper Scroll of Qumran*. He lives in London.

Robert Feather is one of the world's foremost scholars in research of the roots of Monotheism. Feather is a Dead Sea Scrolls expert with few equals. What sets Feather's work apart and makes it so compelling and worthy of praise is his fresh approach and trained, yet open mind. Most (if not all) of the Dead Sea Scroll team since their discovery beginning in 1947, has been made up of members of fervently established religions: Catholic, Protestant & Hebrew. As such, these partisan researchers have been shy, reclusive, reluctant and unwilling to share their knowledge, and freely

pass on the information to other interested sources as they were originally compelled to do. As a result, for over 60 years, important information, details and segments have been withheld, hidden and even possibly intentionally destroyed by the very persons who were entrusted with its safekeeping and to bring the Dead Sea Scrolls to light of day. As a PhD and metallurgist, Feather was invited into the group to help decipher one of the most enigmatic scrolls, "The Copper Scroll of Qumran." In his first book (of the same name) Feather proved a clear link between the ancient Essene Jews at Qumran and the 18th Dynasty Pharaoh Akhenaten, indicating that the true roots of Monotheism were actually Egyptian - not Jewish! In this, his second work in a trilogy on the ancient Essene settlement at Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, Feather focuses on new evidence that Jesus' missing years, along with John the Baptist, were spent as initiates in the Essene community. The book begins like a "detective thriller" and never lets up. There is no question that further dissemination of Feather's discoveries at Qumran will ultimately rock the foundations of modern monotheism be they Catholic, Protestant, Islam or Hebrew. Understanding the reality of these links establishes why the Jewish and Catholic team members in charge of the Dead Sea Scrolls have been so secretive, deceitful and very likely dishonest to the possibility of criminal activity. ENOUGH! It is time for more people to understand the truth of our human and religious heritage. This book goes a long way toward correctly interpreting them both. A MUST read for any reasonable, educated, curious person. Intelligent Intervention

One of my favorite books yet! Fascinating insight and research most have completely missed. Excellent!

I liked how the book related Christianity to the Essenes. A unique and interesting perspective. I would recommend to anyone interested in history.

Very interesting. Good read.

This book sheds light on why the Dead Sea Scrolls have been kept from the public. Great history lessons not known to most. Gives great information of how Moses was connected to the true bloodline of Jacob and Joseph (not Jesus father). How Jacob influenced the Pharaoh into becoming the first "Royal blood line" to become a follower of the "ONE GOD". The archaeological evidence of how the Pharaoh and his wife Nefertiti knew Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, the true dates that put into perspective the occurrences that was happening during the time of Christ. Great information

leading to the "True Teachings" that never have been given to the public that the Master Jesus really taught. Was always interested of the history of the the Essenes. For anyone who has looked into the deeper history of the bible and wondered why so many gaps in the history of Mary and her lineages Robert Feather has truley done his homework. Recommend both his books!

Very Well Researched...

I concur with Mr. Cox's 10/26/09 review. Many of the ideas proposed by Mr. Feather are intriguing to a lay reader like myself, but I found his "proofs" too speculative and supported by "evidence" that appears to be nothing more than his own hypothetical reconstructions. I am not even an amateur archeologist, but even so, I can see some problems with "research" conducted like this: While walking around one Qumran gravesite (a single visit he made in April 2000) Mr. Feather saw a palm frond on one previously excavated grave, and on no others, and he uses this as one piece of "evidence" to support his claim that John the Baptist is buried at Qumran. This leaves me (pun intended) thinking, "Ummm, this frond hasn't laid there for 2,000 years, so how is this evidence of anything?" He also found a "pattern" in the otherwise unmarked graves (identified by irregular piles of whitish gray loose stones): some of the piles of stones included one or two dark stones of different sizes (Sacre Bleu!). He jumps from this observation to conclude, "[the] larger the brown marker stone, the more important the individual buried beneath it." This is pure speculation on his part - there isn't even an archeological consensus on who used the gravesite or when the graves were dug (mainly because of the Israeli prohibition on further grave excavation), so making a determination that different color rocks mean anything is only a guess. Furthermore, as with the palm frond mentioned above, what evidence does Mr. Feather have that the piles of rocks have sat undisturbed for 2,000 years? If there is any, he didn't mention it. There are example after example of similarly weak supporting evidence used to "prove" Mr. Feather's hypotheses. While I found the concepts interesting and entertaining, I couldn't get past the large gaps in the evidence, and the poor logical reasoning... this detracted from his otherwise interesting views. As a result, I can only say the book is conceptually intriguing, but not compelling. On an unrelated note, I also read Mr. Feather's book "Black Holes in the Dead Sea Scrolls" and while I had similar issues with that book, it also includes a nice narrative about the people and controversies around the research and publication of Dead Sea Scrolls, and it was a much better read for me. There is quite a bit of overlap between the two books, so I would recommend Black Holes over this one.

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